

Fasting The 9th & 10th Or 10th & 11th Of Muharram

Various scholars
Source: Fatwa-Online

The Fast Of The Ninth And Tenth Of Muharram

[Q]: Is the fast of the ninth and tenth of Muharram recommended?

[A]: Shaykh Ibn Jibreel:¹ The fast of the day of 'Aashoora' (tenth day of Muharram) is recommended, as its excellence has been mentioned in (a number of) ahaadeeth. From them, is the saying of the Prophet (Salla 'Llahu 'alayhi wa sallam):

"Certainly the fast of the day of 'Aashoora' is regarded by Allaah as an expiation for the sins of the previous year."

Also, when the Prophet (Salla 'Llahu 'alayhi wa sallam) arrived in Madeenah he saw the Jews fasting (on this day), so when he asked them (about this), they said: "Certainly, this is the day when Allaah made Moosaa victorious and destroyed Fir'own". So the Prophet (Salla 'Llahu 'alayhi wa sallam) said:

"We have more of a right to Moosaa than you."

So he fasted (that day) and ordered it to be fasted."

As for the ninth, then it has not been confirmed that the Prophet (Salla 'Llahu 'alayhi wa sallam) fasted it, however, it has been narrated by Ibn 'Abbaass (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu) and others that the explanation (tafsir) of the day of 'Aashoora' is that it is the ninth.

And it has been narrated that he (Salla 'Llahu 'alayhi wa sallam) said:

"If I am (still) here next year, then certainly I will fast the ninth (day of Muharram)" And in (another) narration: "along with the tenth (day of Muharram)."

And he (Salla 'Llahu 'alayhi wa sallam) said:

"Differ from the Jews; fast the day before it (the ninth) or the day after it (the eleventh)."

So, this indicates that the fast of the ninth is legislated just as the tenth and it is recommended for the Muslims to increase in fasting during this month as in the saheeh hadeeth. The Prophet (Salla 'Llahu 'alayhi wa sallam) said:

"The best of fasts after (the month of) Ramadhaan is the month of Allaah which they refer to as Muharram."

On this day, the tenth of Muharram, there occurred an incident and that was the murder of al-Husayn (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu). And when he was murdered that day, the Raafidah (commonly known as the Shee'ah) - may Allaah disgrace

¹ Fataawa as-Siyaam - Page 94, Fatwa No.113, Published on Wednesday 5 April 2000

them - (who are amongst those who exceed (their love for) 'Alee (Ibn Abee Taalib) and his family such as al-Hasan and al-Husayn and their children), begun an innovation on that day which still exists today. And from their innovations are lamenting (loud weeping), obsequies (gathering as if for a funeral), afflicting oneself with cuts and acts of (the days of) ignorance (before Islaam), such as striking their cheeks and ripping their pockets (clothing), tearing out of the hair, supplicating with grief and distress throughout this day every year. They circulate many ahaadeeth regarding the day of 'Aashoora' and its misfortune (concerning al-Husayn) and these ahaadeeth are lies against the Prophet (Salla 'Llahu 'alayhi wa sallam).

Then there was a nation called the Nawaasib, who were fanatics in contrast to the Shee'ah, who also began innovations. However, they were quite opposite to the Raafidhah. They would come out in their best garments and complete beauty and appearance, so as to irritate the Raafidhah, as they (also) circulated many ahaadeeth about the excellence of the day of 'Aashoora', in (vast) contrast to the ahaadeeth which the Raafidhah had circulated. So, the Raafidhah say it is mentioned in the hadeeth: Whoever applies kohl (eyeliner - to the eyes) and beautifies (themselves) on the Day of 'Aashoora', they are struck with ophthalmia. And the Nawaasib say: Whoever applies kohl (eyeliner - to the eyes) on the Day of 'Aashoora' their eyes will never be struck with ophthalmia.

And like this, they innovate and lie against the Prophet (Salla 'Llahu 'alayhi wa sallam) and they act likewise. So, it is upon the Muslim not to be deceived by (any of) these (people).

The Permissibility Of Fasting Only On The Day Of 'Aashoora'

[Q]: Is it permissible to fast 'Aashoora' just one day?

[A]: The Permanent Committee for Islaamic Research and Fataawa:² It is permissible to fast the day of 'Aashoora' (tenth day of Muharram) just one day, however, it is better to fast the day before it or the day after it (also) and this is the established Sunnah of the Prophet (Salla 'Llahu 'alayhi wa sallam) who said:

"If I am (still) here next year, then certainly I shall fast the ninth (day of Muharram)"³

Ibn 'Abbaas (Radiya 'Llahu 'anhu) said: "along with the tenth (day of Muharram)"

And with Allaah lies all the success, and may Allaah send prayers and salutations upon our Prophet Muhammad (Salla 'Llahu 'alayhi wa sallam) family and his companions.

That Which Is Recommended For The Muslim On The Day Of 'Aashoora'

[Q]: What is obligatory upon the Muslim to do on the day of Aashoora (tenth day of Muharram), and is Zakaat al-Fitr obligatory (on that day)?

² comprising Head: Shaykh 'Abdul 'Azeez ibn Abdullaah ibn Baaz; Deputy Head: Shaykh 'Abdur-Razzaaq 'Afeefee; Member: Shaykh 'Abdullaah Ibn Ghudayyaan Fataawa al-Lajnah ad-Daa'imah lil-Buooth al-'Ilmiyyah wal-Iftaa. - Volume 10, Page 401, Fatwa No.13700

³ Reported by Muslim, Ahmad, Ibn Maajah, Ibn Abee Shaybah, at-Tahaawee, al-Bayhaqee and al-Baghawee

[A]: The Permanent Committee for Islaamic Research and Fataawa:⁴ It is legislated for the Muslim to fast on the day of 'Aashoora', for that which has been confirmed that the Prophet (sal-Allaahu `alayhe wa sallam) ordered fasting on (the day of) 'Aashoora', however, when (the fasting of) Ramadhaan was obligated, whoever preferred to fast ('Aashoora') did so and whoever preferred not to (do so) did not. And there is no Zakaat al-Fitr (to be paid) on the day of 'Aashoora' as there is on 'Eed al-Fitr after the month of Ramadhaan.

And with Allaah lies all the success, and may Allaah send prayers and salutations upon our Prophet Muhammad (sal-Allaahu `alayhe wa sallam) and his family and his companions.

⁴ comprising Head: Shaykh 'Abdul 'Azeez ibn Abdullaah ibn Baaz; Deputy Head: Shaykh 'Abdur-Razzaaq 'Afeefee; Member: Shaykh 'Abdullaah Ibn Ghudayyaan Fataawa al-Lajnah ad-Daa'imah lil-Buhooth al-'Ilmiyyah wal-Iftaa. - Volume 10, Page 400, Fatwa No.10962 Published on Wednesday 5 April 2000